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### ABSTRACT

Apparatus, system and method for managing and monitoring the routing in a communications network is presented. The network includes a number of routing domains which in turn include a number of routing areas, each having a number of network nodes that intercommunicate using transmission links. A link state routing process is implemented in each of the routing areas. A link state database is maintained by each network node for each routing area to which the network node belongs. In addition, at least for some of the routing areas include a routing controlling device which belongs to the link state routing process of the respective area, and which maintains a link state database for the routing area that is identical to that which is maintained by the network nodes. Each routing controlling device is connected to at least one network node of the respective area and provides for the rejecting of non-routing information and traffic to the controlling device and for the injecting of routing information into the link state routing process of the respective routing area from the routing controlling device.

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